

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2811

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MASERU

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 0351

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PINS, LT, ZA

SUBJECT: GUERRILLA TRAINING FOR DISSIDENT BASOTHO IN ZAMBIA

REF: MASERU 114

1. WE TOO FIND IT DIFFICULT TO CREDIT STORY OF GUERRILLA TRAINING BEING GIVEN DISSIDENT BASOTHO MINERS IN ZAMBIA. NO RPT NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO US WOULD CONFIRM SUCH TRAINING. WHILE GOL MAY NOT BE ONE OF ZAMBIA'S FAVORITES IN AFRICAN POLITICAL GALAXY, WE QUESTION WHETHER KAUNDA HAS EITHER INTEREST OR INTENTION TO WISH BRING ABOUT ITS DOWNFALL THROUGH SUPPORT OF AN ARMED STRUGGLE. MOREOVER, SUCH ACTION ESPECIALLY IN COUNTRY AS GEOGRAPHICALLY REMOTE FROM ZAMBIA AS LESOTHO WOULD BE ENTIRELY INCONSISTENT WITH KAUNDA'S STYLE, AS WELL AS HIS PERSONAL AND PHILOSOPHICAL OPPOSITION TO VIOLENT OVERTHROW OF LEGALLY CONSTITUTED MAJORITY RULE REGIMES IN AFRICA.

2. THERE IS OF COURSE REMOTE POSSIBILITY THAT SOME BASOTHO AFTER COMPLETING THEIR SERVICE IN SOUTH AFRICAN MINES MAY HAVE BEEN RECRUITED INTO RANKS OF SOUTH AFRICAN ANC MILITARY FORCE. IF SO PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF THEIR TRAINING WOULD BE OVERTHROW OF WHITE RULE IN SOUTH AFRICA RATHER THAN INDEPENDENT LESOTHO REGIME. WE HAVE NO CURRENT INFORMATION ON ANC-SA MILITARY TRAINING WITHIN
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ZAMBIA.

WILKOWSKI

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NNN

Message Attributes

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